

Trust account legislation

On February 1 new legislation affecting the administration of trust accounts came into effect.

Regulation 11A of section 20 of the Cash Transaction Reports Act 1988 says:

"11A(1) A statement under section 20 of the Act in relation to an account that is held in trust need not set out the name of each beneficiary under the trust if the account:

(a) is an account held by, or operated in connection with, an exempt superannuation fund; or

(b) is a trust account held by:

(i) the Commonwealth, a State, the Australian Capital Territory, the Northern Territory or the Territory of Norfolk Island; or

(ii) a public authority; or

(iii) a local government body.

"(2) A statement in relation to any other trust account must state, instead of setting out the name of each beneficiary:

(a) the name and address of the trustee; and

(b) if the terms of the trust identify the beneficiaries by reference only to membership of a class — details of the class."

Pen friend wanted

Dear Ed,

I am writing to ask if you could assist me in locating an Australian "pen pal" or correspondent.

I am 36 years old and I practice law in a small firm located in a suburb of St Paul, Minnesota, in the north central part of the United States.

My practice is focused on health care, corporate and administrative law.

I am married, have four young children, and enjoy reading, gardening, sewing, cross country skiing and antiques.

I would like to correspond with an Australian attorney to learn about your legal system and your country.

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In pursuit of a Model Building Act free seminar in Darwin soon

The Australian Uniform Building Regulations Co-ordinating Council (AUBRCC) is attempting to develop of Model Building Act.

A seminar will be held at the Hotel Darwin Convention Centre from 9am to 12noon on May 20.

The seminar is free, informal and invited debate on issues relating to the Model Building Act.

The seminar will be opened by Max Ortman, MLA, the Minister for Lands and Housing.

Lyall Dix, the Chairman of AUBRCC Executive, will speak on the reform of the legislative base and administrative provisions of the Act.

Kim Lovegrove, project leader and co-ordinator with solicitors Mills Oakley McKay, will speak on the benefits of uniformity, plain English drafting, dispute resolution and legislative innovation.

AUBRCC was established by agreement between the Commonwealth and state governments to develop a national approach to building requirements.

In November 1990 AUBRCC commissioned the drafting of a Model Building Act by solicitors Mills Oakley McKay.

The Model Building Act will provide for increased efficiency, particularly in the area of building approvals and will propose liability reform for industry, local government and the consumer.

It will encourage cost savings for companies and corporations which will be able to confidently brief one legal advisor to deal effectively with building matters arising in any state or territory.

Bookings for the seminar are essential and can be made to Tony Bartley at the Building Branch of the Department of Lands and Housing, GPO Box 1680, Darwin, ph 897475.

Seminar registration forms are available at the Society.

Law and literature

Following the success of the Law and Literature Association's Sydney conference last year, a second conference is planned for the weekend of September 21 and 22 at Monash University.

The conference organiser, J Neville Turner, has issued the first notice and call for papers.

Our own Chief Justice is listed to present a paper on Dickens and the Law.

Other papers include *Politics, Fiction and Legal Change: Parliamentary and Judicial Attempt to Constrain the Way Legal Texts are Interpreted* (Jeff Barnes), *Sex, Lies and Defamation: The Bush Lawyer and Wessex* (Penelope Pether), *Chancery versus Equity in Bleak House* (Kieran Dolin), *Australian Lawyers and their Libraries in the Nineteenth Century* (Professor W Kirsop), *Narrative Theory in Legal Analysis* (Michael Meehan), *Writers' Agreements with Publishers and Strategies for Overcoming Unfair Contracting Practices* (Colin Golvan) and *Literary Criticism and the Law of Defamation* (Justice Peter Heerey).

Anyone interested in attending the conference should contact the Society for a registration form.

Management, development workshops for practices

The Financial Management Research Centre in Armidale is running short, residential *Legal Practice Management and Development* workshops throughout the year.

The dates are May 13-17, July 22-26, September 9-13 and November 11-15.

Please note that the September workshop is reserved for delegates from a practice of three partners or less.

Details of the workshops are available from Elizabeth Carey, telephone (067) 725199.